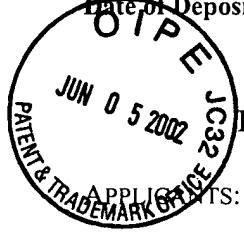


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APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang  
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646  
FOR: Growth Factor Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This filing in response to the December 5, 2001, Office Action ("Office Action") is due on or before June 5, 2002, with the enclosed three month extension of time. Prior to examination, please make the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace pending claims 1-5 with the following amended claims:

*A1*  
*Sub B*

1. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

  - a) amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4;
  - b) a mature form of amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4;
  - c) a variant of a mature form of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; and
  - d) a fragment of the amino acid sequence described in a) to c).
2. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is a FCTR2 fragment of a FCTR<sub>X</sub> polypeptide.
3. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is a naturally occurring allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:4.